

**John St. Clair to George Washington, May 24, 1758,
Orders, Letters to Washington and Accompanying
Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames
of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.**

***Orders for Colo. Washington Comg. the Troops of the Collony & Dominion of
Virginia.***¹

I am directed by the Commander in Chief of the Forces in the Southern district of North America to acquaint you that it is his orders that you call the whole Regt. that is under your Command to Winchester excepting the Two Companys on the So. Branch of Pottomack & if the Militia should come up to relieve those they are Likewise to Join at Winchester.

You are to hold your Regt. & the 2d. Regt. ready to March at the first notice, either the whole or any part of them & prepare every thing for taking the Field You will take care that your Commissarys have always in readiness for your March 8 Days Provisions until you can reach the Kings Magazines from ye time you come to them the Virginia Forces will be victualled as his Majestys Regular Troops.

You are to give 40 Men to Capt. Stewart for a Troop of Light Horse from the 1st. Virginia Regt. those Men to be replacd from the 2d. Regt. & the 40 Men given to Capt. Stewart to be carried on the Rolls & Returns of the 2d. Regt. & paid by them as a part of the Troops furnished by the Collony of Virginia.

You are to compleat the 1st. Regt. and are to receive directions from Mr. Prest. Blair in what manner he would have it done. I have sent to Philadelphia for Tents for the 2 Regt. which shall be deliverd you upon Mr. Prest. Blairs engaging to pay what they Cost. It will

Library of Congress

be expected that these Genl. Forbes's orders will be complyd with so that the whole may be in readiness to move in Fifteen days from the date hereof.

Given under my Hand at Winchester this Twenty fourth day of May 1758.

JOHN ST. CLAIR.

¹ These orders were received the same day, and Washington immediately proceeded to their execution, impressing it upon his officers that not a moment was to be lost. On the same day, in obedience to orders, he left Fort Loudoun for Williamsburg to advise with the President and the Council respecting many essential points. Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen was left by Washington in command during his absence.